

a1
impact and as a function of the severity thereof, the flowable medium is displaced upwards by the upper part of the vehicle occupant's body into the element of the head restraint, which then in consequence moves forwards in the direction of the occupant's head.

Please delete paragraph [0026] and insert the following paragraph:

a2
Figure 1 shows a highly schematic cross section through a head restraint of a vehicle seat according to preferred embodiments of the invention, shown in a normal state;

Please delete paragraph [0027] and insert the following paragraph:

a3
Figure 2 shows a schematic illustration of an exemplary embodiment of a container which is arranged in the head restraint according to the invention and is equipped with chambers which differ in filling and design; and

Please insert the following new paragraph after [0027] in the initial application:

a4
Figure 3 shows an embodiment utilizing the Venturi principle.

Please delete paragraph [0031] and insert the following paragraph:

a5
The container 3 is connected via a duct 6 to a valve device 10, a vacuum pump 7 and a vacuum reservoir container 8, via which, if a crash event is recognized by means of a customary pre-crash sensory mechanism 11, a negative pressure or vacuum can be abruptly generated in the container 3 in order to stiffen and compact the filling bodies 5 in the container 3. In this case, the triggering of the crash signal causes the valve device 10 to switch over and the gas which is in the container 3 to be conveyed via the duct 6, which preferably has the largest possible duct cross section in order to rapidly obtain a vacuum, into the vacuum reservoir container 8 which, in the design shown, is integrated within the vehicle seat 2, namely in the region of the backrest of the vehicle seat.

Please delete paragraph [0033] and insert the following paragraph:

all
A separate pump or else even a pump which is already present, for example, a series pump for a central locking system of the vehicle, can be used as the vacuum pump 7. If the vacuum pump 7 is combined with the vacuum reservoir container 8, the vacuum pump 7 can be of comparatively small design, in which case the vacuum pump can be switched off after the appropriate pressure level has been reached in the container 3. An overpressure container 20, as shown in Figure 3, using a Venturi principle via a Venturi nozzle 21, can be used to generate the vacuum or negative pressure in the container.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Sub. 1
1 (Amended) Head restraint of a vehicle seat, in which at least one container having an elastically deformable, gas tight covering is integrated, said container being filled with a gas and at least partially with filling bodies and being provided with at least one duct which is connected to an evacuator assembly for an abrupt evacuation of the gas in the event of a crash and for refilling of the gas.

as 3. (Amended) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the evacuator assembly for an abrupt evacuation of the gas in the event of a crash and for refilling of the gas is integrated below or within the vehicle seat.

4. (Amended) Head restraint according to Claim 1,
wherein the container is divided into a plurality of chambers which are at least partially filled with the filling bodies.

5. (Amended) Head restraint according to Claim 4,